

Message Text

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61

ORIGIN EB-07

INFO OCT-01 ARA-06 EUR-12 EA-07 IO-10 ISO-00 SSO-00 NSCE-00

USIE-00 INRE-00 AGR-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 DODE-00

FRB-03 H-02 INR-07 INT-05 L-03 LAB-04 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 AID-05 CIEP-01 SS-15 STR-04 TAR-01 TRSE-00

PRS-01 SP-02 OMB-01 /109 R

DRAFTED BY EB/OT/STA:BBISHOP,JR.:CLJ

APPROVED BY EB/OT/STA:WCLARK,JR.

COMMERCE:IEPR/LTPD-AGARCIA

COMMERCE:BRTA/IPD-BASCHER

STR-KGUENTHER

LABOR-BWHITE

TREASURY-BBARREDA

ARA/ECP-JO'MAHONY

EA/EP-FGERARDOT

EUR/RPE:JMCCARTHY

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O P 272122Z AUG 75

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY SEOUL IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY TAIPEI IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY ROME IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY MADRID IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BRASILIA IMMEDIATE

AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES IMMEDIATE

INFO USDEL MTN GENEVA PRIORITY

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS PRIORITY

AMCONSUL FLORENCE PRIORITY

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 204326

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS:ETRD, KS, TW, IT, SP, BR, AR, SZ, BE

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SUBJECT:SHOES: CONSULTATION ON POSSIBLE RESULTS OF
CURRENT INTERNATIONAL TRADE COMMISSION INVESTIGATION

REF: STATE 198253

1. AS POSTS ARE AWARE (REFTEL) ITC CURRENTLY HAS UNDER REVIEW ESCAPE CLAUSE PETITION RELATING TO NON-RUBBER FOOTWEAR FILED ON BEHALF OF U.S. SHOE INDUSTRY BY THE AMERICAN FOOTWEAR INDUSTRIES ASSOCIATION AND THE SHOE WORKERS' UNIONS. PETITION COVERS ALL ITEMS OF SCHEDULE 7 OF U.S. TARIFF SCHEDULES EXCEPT ZORIS, SLIPPER SOCKS, AND RUBBER FOOTWEAR (E.G. SNEAKERS, GALOSHES). IN LIGHT OF THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF THE ISSUE IN COUNTRIES CONCERNED, IT HAS BEEN DECIDED THAT CONSULTATIONS WITH THEM WILL BE HELD, PROBABLY WITHIN THE NEXT 60 DAYS, TO LAY OUT FULLY THE REASONS FOR ESCAPE CLAUSE ACTION, PROCEDURAL ASPECTS OF INVESTIGATION AND POSSIBLE RESULT OF AN AFFIRMATIVE FINDING BY THE ITC. WE HAVE NOT YET MADE FINAL DECISION AS TO WHO WILL REPRESENT U.S. ON CONSULTATION TEAM NOR ON THE VENU OR SCENERIO FOR SUCH CONSULTATIONS. POSTS WILL BE ADVISED AS SOON AS THESE BASIC DECISIONS HAVE BEEN TAKEN.

2. WHILE WE DO NOT BELIEVE CONTACT WITH HOST GOVERNMENTS WOULD BE ADVISABLE AT THIS JUNCTURE, WE WOULD LIKE TO SOLICIT EMBASSY COMMENTS ON VARIOUS ASPECTS OF PROBLEM IN ORDER TO BETTER PREPARE FOR THESE CONSULTATIONS. ANY IN HOUSE INFORMATION OR INSIGHTS INTO THE FOLLOWING AREAS WOULD BE APPRECIATED.

A. CURRENT STATUS OF THE SHOE INDUSTRY OF THE HOST COUNTRY: SUCH COMMENTS MIGHT ADDRESS STRUCTURE OF INDUSTRY, TRENDS IN DOMESTIC PRODUCTION, CONSUMPTION, IMPORTS AND EXPORTS (BY MAJOR PRODUCT CATEGORY) PLANNED EXPANSION, EFFORTS TO DEVELOP NEW MARKETS INCLUDING ANY EFFORTS TO DIVERSIFY TRADE AWAY FROM U.S. MARKET, GENERAL OUTLOOK INCLUDING PARTICULAR PROBLEMS FACING INDUSTRY. DEPARTMENT REVIEWING FLORENCE A-19 AND MADRID A-188 OF 9/27/74 (FOOTWEAR CERPS). APPRECIATE ANY UPDATING OR ADDITIONAL DATA POSTS CONSIDER USEFUL FOR PURPOSES OF DISCUSSIONS. POSTS NEED NOT ADDRESS GOVERNMENT ASSIS-CONFIDENTIAL

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TANCE OR TAX POLICIES FOR THE PURPOSES OF THIS STUDY.

B. POSSIBLE AREAS OF CONCERN TO HOST GOVERNMENT WHICH MIGHT BE RAISED IN CONNECTION WITH DISCUSSION ON SHOES AND UPON WHICH U.S. TEAM SHOULD BE BRIEFED.

C. ATTITUDE OF HOST GOVERNMENT INCLUDING RECEPTIVITY TO A REQUEST FOR CONSULTATION AND ANY PITFALLS THAT SHOULD BE AVOIDED IN MAKING SUCH REQUESTS.

3. FOR THE PRESENT POSTS SHOULD NOT DISCUSS THIS TOPIC OR THE POSSIBILITY OF CONSULTATION WITH EITHER HOST GOVERNMENT OR SHOE INDUSTRY REPRESENTATIVES.

4. FOR ROME: WE NOTE IN THE RECENT CERP REPORT ON THE ITALIAN SHOE INDUSTRY (FLORENCE A-19) THAT VISA SYSTEM FOR FOOTWEAR EXPORTS TO THE U.S. HAS BEEN SUSPENDED. WOULD APPRECIATE VERIFICATION.

5. FOR BUENOS AIRES: GIVEN CURRENT DIFFICULTIES IN ARGENTINA AND FACT THAT ARGENTINE SHOE EXPORTS TO U.S. HAVE TO ALL INTENTS AND PURPOSES CEASED, WOULD APPRECIATE EMBASSY COMMENT ON PROSPECTS OF RESUMPTION OF SHOE TRADE IN NEAR FUTURE. INGERSOLL

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 26 AUG 1999
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: TRADE LAW, SHOES, INVESTIGATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 27 AUG 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: CunninFX
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975STATE204326
Document Source: ADS
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: EB/OT/STA:BBISHOP,JR.:CLJ
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: 11652 GDS
Errors: n/a
Film Number: D750297-0217
From: STATE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t197508102/baaaathr.tel
Line Count: 121
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, TEXT ON MICROFILM
Office: ORIGIN EB
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: CunninFX
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 23 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <23 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <16 OCT 2003 by CunninFX>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: n/a
TAGS: ETRD, KS, TW, IT, SP, BR, AR, SZ, ITC
To: SEOUL
TAIPEI
ROME
MADRID
BRASILIA
BUENOS AIRES INFO MTN GENEVA

EC BRUSSELS
FLORENCE

Type: TE

Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006